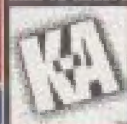


VERTICAL FORCE™

KIDS TO ADULTS



AGES 8+

VIRTUAL BOY™

INSTRUCTION BOOKLET

VUE-VIDEO-USA

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ANIMATED VIOLENCE

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A battle that will either wipe humanity or machines from the universe has begun!

The year is 210 SE (Space Era)

Humankind has prospered beyond the wildest imagination of the earliest space explorers. Waves of human colonists have advanced to thousands of planets all over the universe. Each colony built is provided with a caretaker computer and equipped with Android Industrial (AI) Drones to control the planet and mine resources. The materials collected are sent back to Earth.

Now, something has gone terribly wrong and the caretaker computer of Odin, (planet #0326) has spontaneously reprogrammed itself. Instead of serving humans and sending minerals to Earth, it seems its new mission is to slaughter humans and make minerals of Earth.

The corrupted caretaker, calling itself "Mittgard," has declared war on all humanity. His mechanical army of "AI Drones" is headed toward Earth, and he has equipped them with a ray that will render the strategic computers and weapons of the United Earth Army inoperative. As a result, wherever the army has tried to intercept the AI Drones they have suffered total defeat.

As luck would have it, a xeno-archeology team working on Ragnarok (planet #1562) has just made a most fortuitous find. Among the ruins of an alien civilization, a battle machine has been unearthed. Because of its alien design and construction, this battle machine is not affected by the Mittgard rays. The most fortunate stroke is that it is equipped with a device that allows it to reprogram some AI Drones and use them against Mittgard's forces.

After taking possession of the Ragnarok battle machine, The United Earth Army has called on its number one flying ace, YOU, to rid the universe of the menace posed by Mittgard.

Before Starting The Game

When using the Virtual Boy, several adjustments must be made before starting the game. For your health and safety, be certain to perform these adjustments each time you play. If you wear glasses or contact lenses, be sure to wear them while using the Virtual Boy.

Insert the Game Pak into the Virtual Boy, then turn the POWER switch located on the front of the controller to the ON position. When the screen pictured to the right appears, continue with the IPD and FOCUS adjustments.

Press START to display the "IPD and FOCUS adjustment screen." Both adjustments are made using this screen.



IPD Adjustment

This adjustment sets Virtual Boy to the distance between your eyes (the Inter Pupil Distance).

While looking at the adjustment screen, turn the IPD dial located on top of the Virtual Boy until you can see a mark in all four corners of the screen, as shown on the screen to the right.

The best adjustment may allow you to see only three marks, or four slightly blurred marks. When you have completed the IPD adjustment, proceed with the FOCUS adjustment.



Focus Adjustment

This adjustment makes sure that you see the game image in the Virtual Boy display clearly.

Move the FOCUS slider to the CENTER POSITION as marked on the housing. For most people, the center position should give you the clearest image. If the image is still fuzzy, adjust the FOCUS slider right or left until the image is sharp and clear.



During Game Play

To access the IPD and Focus Adjustment screen while playing the game, press START to pause. While paused, pressing SELECT will make the IPD and Focus Adjustment screen appear. After completing any necessary adjustments, press SELECT to return to the pause screen.



Automatic Pause Function

All Virtual Boy Game Paks contain an automatic pause function. After completing the IPD and FOCUS adjustments, press START and the screen pictured at right will appear. The automatic pause is preset to the ON position. Nintendo recommends that you ALWAYS set the automatic pause to ON. To override the setting, use ◀ or ▶ on the L +Control Pad, then press START to begin the game demo. Pressing START again will advance you to the game title screen.

After completing each stage (when the Automatic Pause is active) the game will automatically pause. Please take a break and rest. When your rest is completed, press START to resume play.





USING THE CONTROLLER



L - CONTROL PAD Move Fighter

This button moves your ship, Ragnarok, up, down, left, right, and diagonally. Use this also to control the cursor on menu screens.

R - CONTROL PAD Change AI Drone

This switches between the AI Drone equipped with any in stock. (See page 18)

A BUTTON Choose Altitude

Press the A Button to change your flightline altitude. (See page 15)

B BUTTON AI Drone Destruct

Press the B Button to destroy the AI Drone you are currently using. The blast will damage any enemies on screen. This button is also used for entering selections on Menu screens.

L & R BUTTONS Fire Weapons

Press either button to fire the weapons. Keep the button pressed for rapid fire.

START Pause

Press START to pause the game during play. Also used to enter a selection on Menu screens.

SELECT AI Drone Controls

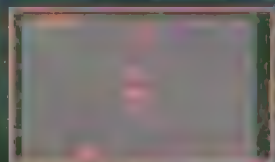
Use SELECT to change the altitude and control of an AI Drone. (See page 14 for details)

This chart explains the default controller configuration (Type A.) Change to Type B using KEY CONFIG on the title screen. (See page 12 for details.)



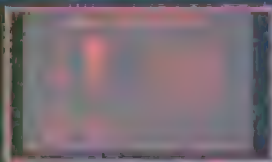
HOW TO START

When the title screen appears, press START. Press START again to begin the game or use the L +Control Pad to move the cursor to another selection.



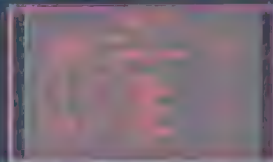
GAME START

Starts the game.



BRIGHTNESS

This option will allow you to adjust the brightness of the screen. Press the A Button to make the screen brighter or press the B Button to darken it. When your adjustment is complete, use the L +Control Pad to select EXIT, then press the A Button to return to the title screen.



CONFIG

This menu will allow you to change the difficulty level of the game and switch the controller setting. Use the A or B on the L +Control Pad to select an option and use < or > to change it. When complete, select EXIT and press the A Button to return to the title screen.

GAME LEVEL Changes The Difficulty Level

Use this to change the difficulty of the game. With the cursor on "GAME LEVEL," use ◀ or ▶ on the L2 Control Pad to adjust the difficulty.

CONTROL TYPE Switches The Control Type

Move the cursor with the L2 Control Pad to "CONTROL TYPE." Use ◀ or ▶ to switch styles between Type A and B.

	TYPE A	TYPE B
L2 Control Pad	Move Ship	Exchange AI Drone
R2 Control Pad	Exchange AI Drone	Move Ship
A Button	Rise Up AI Drone	AI Drone Controls
B Button	Search Altitude	Pause
START	Pause	Blow Up AI Drone
SELECT	AI Drone Controls	Search Altitude

GAME SCREEN



On the game play screen, the condition of RAGNAROK ❶ and any AI DRONES ❷, ❸, and ❹ will be displayed.

❶ Ship Damage Meter



This is the meter for your ship. When Ragnarok is damaged the meter has eight marks. As you are hit by enemy missiles and run into obstacles, the number of marks will decrease. When your Damage Meter reaches red, your ship will blow up and the game is over.

❷ Drone Control Type

These icons are displayed to indicate whether the AI Drone Auto Altitude Change and Auto Reserve are under manual or automatic control. There are four different possible control setting combinations that you can change from by pressing SELECT. (Keep pressing SELECT to cycle through the four options.) When the icon is displayed, that setting is on automatic.

ALTITUDE CHANGE	CHARACTER RESERVE
MANUAL	MANUAL
MANUAL	AUTO
AUTO	MANUAL
AUTO	AUTO

These icons are displayed to indicate whether the AI Drone Auto Altitude Change and Auto Reserve are under manual or automatic control. There are four different possible control setting combinations that you can choose from by pressing SELECT. Also, pressing SELECT to cycle through the four options. When the icon is displayed, that setting is on automatic.

	AUTO	MANUAL
ALTITUDE CHANGE 	The AI Drone will change altitude according to its preprogrammed characteristics.	The AI Drone will change altitudes along with Ragnarok.
AI DRONE RESERVE 	When the AI Drone's Damage Meter reaches one mark, it will automatically go into reserve.	The AI Drone will only go into reserve when the player chooses to put it there using the R+Control Pad.

▶ Active AI Drone Damage Meter

This meter shows the damage of the AI Drone you are currently using. Just like Ragnarok's Damage Meter, it will also display eight marks, which is 1. When the AI Drone's meter reaches zero, the AI Drone will disintegrate.

▶ AI Drone Reserve

The AI Drones you currently have in reserve are displayed here. You can stock up to three AI Drones. When placed in reserve, their Damage Meter will slowly recover. While recovering, they will float.



HOW TO PLAY THE GAME

CHANGING ALTITUDE

The altitude of Ragnarok will change when you press the A Button. Enemies will change their altitudes, which you must switch to attack them.

• Side view



High Altitude View of Ragnarok



Press A Button



Low Altitude View of Ragnarok

You can switch altitude at any time unless an obstacle above or below obstructs Ragnarok's movement in that direction.



REINFORCEMENTS COLLECTING POWER-UPS & AI DRONES

Power-up items and AI Drones can often be found floating in space. They will also appear when the enemy Kastan drones are destroyed. Either way, they can be collected when touched by Ragnarok.



KASTAN

POWER-UP ITEMS

There are three types of Power-up items, each giving Ragnarok a different weapons system. Collect a variety of each type to multiply the strength of each one. A triple weapon power-up is the maximum.

If Ragnarok takes a hit while Powered-up, both the Damage Meter and Power-up level will decrease by one. (This does not apply when Ragnarok is protected by the Shield.) If Ragnarok is hit while operating with a Single Power weapon, it will return to normal weapons.

CHANGING POWER-UP ITEMS

When Ragnarok collects a different type of Power-up, the weapon type will change but the level will not increase.

EXAMPLE



Laser (Level 2)















Collect a
Wide-Shot
Power-Up Item



Wide-Shot (Level 2)

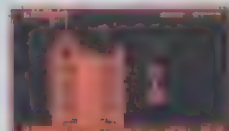
POWER-UP ITEMS

POWERING UP AI DRONES

WEAPON	FEATURE	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE
LASER 	The Laser will pierce enemies and obstacles. As the Power up level increases, the beam's width does not.			
WIDE SHOT 	The Laser will fire in multiple directions. As its level increases, so does the number of directions it will fire at.			
SHIELD 	The Shield will protect Ragnarok. A Triple power up level also becomes a spinning weapon.			

There are three types of AI Drones and each can also be powered up. If an AI Drone is active when Ragnarok collects a power up it will also be powered up. AI Drones will power up in four levels.

Like Ragnarok, when a powered up AI Drone takes a hit, its Carriage Meter and Power up level will decrease by one.



COLLECTING AI DRONES

When Ragnarok collects an AI Drone, it will be automatically activated. If another AI Drone was active when the new one is collected, it will be placed into Reserve.



PLACING AI DRONES INTO RESERVE

Using the R+Control Pad, you can exchange active AI Drones with those in Reserve. Press SELECT to change AI Drone function between normal and auto (see page 14).



AI DRONE RESERVE LOCATION AND CORRESPONDING R+CONTROL PAD DIRECTION



Using \triangle , ∇ , or \rightarrow on the R+Control Pad you can select which AI Drone to activate.

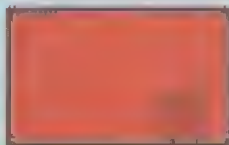
REPAIRING AI DRONES

An AI Drone that has suffered damage can be repaired by putting it into reserve. AI Drones in reserve will flash while being repaired.



SETTING AI DRONES TO SELF-DESTRUCT

An active AI Drone can be set to self-destruct using a bomb. The resulting explosion will damage any on-screen enemy.



THE THREE TYPES OF AI DRONES

WEAPON

FEATURE

LASER

This AI Drone will fire a laser that can pierce the armor of enemy ships.



WIDE SHOT

This unit fires in several directions.



REPAIR

When enemies are near, the Repair Type fights by Ragnarok's side. When you are not fighting, it comes out repairs that restore your Damage Meter.



Whenever an Oil Drone samples an enemy's health, it will automatically fire its weapons.

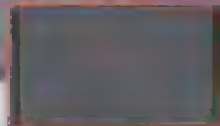


GAME OVER

As you run into objects on the screen or are hit by enemy missiles, your Damage Meter will decrease. When it reaches zero, Raptank will be destroyed and the game ends.

CONTINUE

When the game ends, the continue countdown will begin. If you press START or the A Button within ten seconds, the game will continue. The stage will restart from the beginning unless you have defeated Rapt, the mid-point boss. The number of continues that you can use is unlimited.



TIPS

When you are damaged, Raptank will flash and be invulnerable for about two seconds. In crowded areas, use this opportunity to move to a clear area.



ENEMIES



• SHELL

A basic enemy projectile.



• STORE

Stores are used to store enemy projectiles.

• PRIEST

Priests are enemy units that can heal other enemy units.



• RIFEBOLT

Rifebolts are enemy projectiles that can penetrate armor.



• VENA

A high speed engine



• RAYTZER

The engine system
works with
solar



• BIPHEL

The device is
designed by Germany



• CLAYA

The engine is
designed by NASA
it works with
solar

• ALTAFAZ

A high speed
engine, it works
with solar



• LAZERAY

The engine is designed
at the University of
Paris



MID-LEVEL BOSS - BRATT

Bratt was made by Mittgard as an area commander. In each stage you will find him armed with different weapons. In most stages he will retreat when his weaponry is destroyed, but not always...



STAGE 1
Main entrance



STAGE 2
With Bratt



STAGE 3
Alone



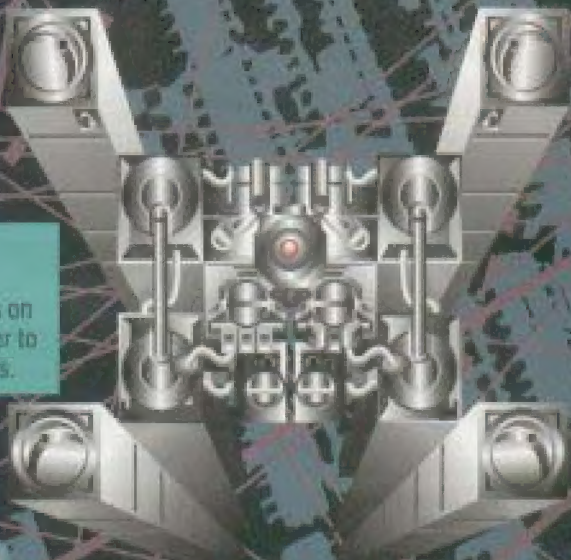
STAGE 4
In the end

LEVEL BOSSES

At the end of each level you will face the boss. Here are the first two:

STAGE 1 PHEYLAR

PheyLAR moves on a special carrier to attack intruders.



STAGE 2 MOLWAF

While underground, Molwaf is impervious to all attacks.



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REV-B

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REV-1

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